

A⁴ 16. (amended) A host cell comprising an expression system expressing the protein according to claim 8.

20. (amended) The non-human animal according to claim 17 characterized in that a rodent animal is a mouse.

A⁵ 21. (amended) A method of preparing a cell expressing a protein having reactivity against bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence characterized in that the DNA according to claim 1 is introduced into a cell wherein a gene function encoding a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence is destroyed on a chromosome.

A⁶ 26. (amended) A screening method for an agonist or an antagonist of a protein having reactivity against bacterial DNA having the unmethylated CpG sequence according to claim 24 using a mouse as a non-human animal.

27. (amended) An agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence obtained by the screening method for an agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having the unmethylated CpG sequence according to claim 23.

A⁷ 30. (amended) A kit used to diagnose a disease in a test DNA sample, which disease is related to the deletion, substitution and/or addition in a sequence of DNA encoding a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence, which kit comprises the DNA according to claim 3.

Please add the following claims

A⁸ Claim 31 (new) The non-human animal according to claim 18 characterized in that a rodent animal is a mouse.

Claim 32 (new) A screening method for an agonist or an antagonist of a protein having reactivity against bacterial DNA having the unmethylated CpG sequence according to claim 25 using a mouse as a non-human animal.

A⁸
Claim 33 (new) An agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence obtained by the screening method for an agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having the unmethylated CpG sequence according to claim 24.

Claim 34 (new) An agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having an unmethylated CpG sequence obtained by the screening method for an agonist or an antagonist of a receptor protein specifically recognizing bacterial DNA having the unmethylated CpG sequence according to claim 25.

REMARKS

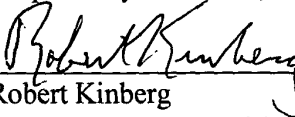
This Preliminary Amendment is made to eliminate multiple claim dependency.

Examination on the merits of the application is requested. A marked up version showing the changes made to the claims is attached.

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